

Appl. No. 10/799,625
Amendment dated: January 26, 2005
Reply to OA of: September 27, 2004

REMARKS

Applicants note that claims 2-4 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have made every effort to gain allowance by restricting the application to the subject matter considered allowable. Claim 1 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 2, 3 and 4 have been amended and now it is believed that these claims are allowable.

Applicants have amended the specification and claims to more particularly define the invention taking into consideration the outstanding Official Action. The specification has been amended with regard to the informalities as set forth on page 2 of the Official Action. Claim 1 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 2-4 have been amended as required in the Official Action with respect to certain formalities. The Abstract has been replaced with a new Abstract which is found at the end of this paper on a separate sheet.

Applicant most respectfully submits that all the claims now present in the application are in full compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112 and are clearly patentable over the references of record.

The rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by CAPLUS 2000:648640 has been carefully considered but is most respectfully traversed in view of the cancellation of claim 1 from the application. Accordingly, it is most respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

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In view of the above comments and further amendments to the specification and claims, favorable reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims now present in the application are most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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